

[1st August 2001]

RAJYA SABHA

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The intention of revised order would be to check illegal migration.

(c) The revised orders are likely to be issued shortly.

Crimes on Running Trains

1117. SHRI K.M. KHAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number and nature of crimes committed on the running trains during the last two years which have shown increasing trend, year-wise and zone-wise;

(b) the details of the measures taken by Government check such crimes on the running trains; and

(c) the details of success achieved after taking such measures during the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) and (c) As per the information

received from the National Crime Records Bureau, the number and nature of crimes committed on the running trains during the years 1999 and 2000 is indicated below:—

Crime Head	No. of incidents during	
	1999	2000
Robbery	193	155
Dacoity	56	47
Professional poisoning	279	292
Murder	11	7
Theft	27	23
Sabotage/explosion on tracks	8	5
Fraudulent diversion of wagons/parcels	1	0
TOTAL:	575	489

The above data shows a decrease in the incidence of crime on the running trains over the previous years. Zone-wise data is not maintained by the NCRB.

(b) 'Police' and 'Public Order' are State subjects as per the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India and as such, the registration investigation, detection and prevention of crimes in running trains is the responsibility of the Government Railway Police (GRP), which functions under the control of the respective State Governments. The Central Government has been advising the State Governments from time to time, to take necessary measures to ensure the safety of passengers and their belongings during train journeys. The measures suggested by the Central Government include, *inter-alia*, the need for regular meetings between the GRP and the Railway Protection Force (RPF), posting of mobile police force in running trains, improvement in coordination between the police escort and the railway staff, removal of unauthorised hawkers,

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urchins and other undesirable elements, prompt registration of cases at the first place of reporting, investigation of cases of dacoity and robbery by State CID, maintenance of records of gangs and criminals involved in robberies/dacoities in trains, systematic analysis of crimes in train, etc. The Railway administration has also taken steps to assist the GRP in checking criminal activities in running trains. These include sharing of intelligence between the RPF and the GRP, introduction of instant action groups in Superfast trains to prevent entry of unauthorised persons, assistance by the GRP in escorting passenger trains during night, joint strategy involving the RPF and the GRP to deal with anti-social elements operating in trains, etc.

Lack of Basic Facilities for BSF Personnel

1118. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the BSF personnel posted at isolated and difficult terrains are equipped with outdated weapons, lack of basic facilities and medical care and often die of curable diseases;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government have made any critical review of the existing facilities provided to the BSF personnel to remove the deficiencies; and

(d) if so, what steps have been taken by Government in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO): (a) No, Sir. The BSF personnel are equipped with modern weapons available in India. They are also provided with proper food and medical facilities. Whenever they are posted at isolated places in difficult terrain, arrangements are made for helicopter evacuation to established medical centres as well as for transportation of essential items like fresh rations/vegetables, medicines including their dak etc. In addition to these, 20% recoupable advance of the total estimated cost of treatment is being given out of the Special Relief Fund for the BSF personnel and their dependent family members.